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INFORMATIONAL LETTER #2005-3

DATE: May 2, 2005

TO: ALL IDAHO

NURSING FACILITIES

HOSPITALS

RESIDENTIAL OR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

FROM: DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief

Bureau of Facility Standards

SUBJECT: IDAHO FOOD CODE

The State of Idaho's Food Protection Program has completed the process of updating the food safety rules that apply to food establishments throughout the state.

The new rules, collectively known as the *Idaho Food Code*, are the result of hard work by the Idaho Food Safety Advisory Council. This council consists of representatives from the Idaho Restaurant Association, The Idaho Retailer's Association, Independent Restaurateurs, Food Safety Consultants, and several others.

The rewritten rules adopt, by reference, the 2001 FDA Model Food Code, and can be viewed and downloaded using the following internet instructions:

- 1. Access the Department of Health and Welfare web page at: http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov
- 2. In the box on the left, click on "Health"
- 3. On the next page, in the box on the left, click on "Food Protection"
- 4. On the Food Protection page there are links for the Idaho Food Code, the 2005 Food Safety and Sanitation Manual, and other pertinent information.

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The rules have gone before the State Board of Health and the Legislature. The new rules were effective at the end of the Legislative session, and enforcement of the new rules should be in place by July, 2005.

A chart of the changes from the existing **UNICODE** rules to the new *Idaho Food Code* rules is enclosed for your review.

If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Guzzle, Manager of the Food Protection Program in the Department of Health and Welfare at guzzlep@idhw.state.id.us or 208 / 334-5938.

[original signed by Debby Ransom & on file at the Bureau of Facility Standards]

DEBBY RANSOM, R.N., R.H.I.T., Chief

Bureau of Facility Standards

DR/nah Enclosure

c: Idaho Health Care Association Idaho Hospital Association Idaho Assisted Living Association